



*Preserving Kona's Stories*

KONA  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY 3

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Captain Cook, Hawai'i  
96704

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khs@konahistorical.org  
www.konahistorical.org

November 6, 2009

Molly Schmidt  
DLNR Legacy Land Conservation Program  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Molly,

RE: Letters of Support

After considering the issue of support letters, Jill Olson has asked me to send to you copies the seven letters received and forwarded to you in 2008 in support of last year's application.

We are certain that those individuals would have provided a similar letter at this time had they been asked, but it seemed best not to burden them during this period of economic stress and staff shortages.

Please find enclosed letters from the following individuals:

James Greenwell	Palani Ranch Company, Inc.
Tomoe Nimori	Pulama IA Kona Heritage Preservation Council
Beth Sanders	Hawai'i Community College
M. Dolly Strazar	Lyman Museum
Shawn Suzuki	Konawaena High School
Peter Van Dyke	Manager, Bishop Museum Amy B.H. Greenwell Ethnobotanical Gardens
Allen Wall	Kama'aina Rancher, South Kona

Thank you for your assistance with our application.

Aloha,

Donna Starr  
[dstarr@antiochsb.edu](mailto:dstarr@antiochsb.edu)  
Development Assistant  
Kona Historical Society  
808-328-8480

***PALANI RANCH COMPANY, INC***  
***3465 Waialae Avenue #260***  
***Honolulu, HI 96816***

State of Hawaii  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 521  
Honolulu, HI 96809

December 2, 2008

RE: Legacy Lands Conservation Program (Kalukalu Ranch Homestead)

Our family's connection to the ranching business dates back to 1850. We continue today like many of our fellow ranchers to maintain both the ranching business and more importantly the underlying land resource which ranching has managed and maintained. Admittedly it is often a struggle; but we do it partly because we believe that our ranching heritage and connection to the land has been at the core of what built our community, culture, and society. Ranching in fact has been a cornerstone of Agriculture in Hawaii. Aside from its role in feeding and supporting our community, it has played a key role in preserving, maintaining and improving lands which are available today for other agricultural endeavors coupled with appropriate conservation practices which have always complimented ranching in Hawaii.

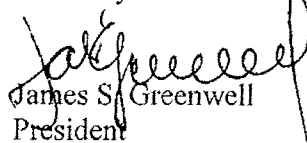
There is a critical educational need that preserving ranching's history will accomplish. We must support efforts such as the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead project as a means to educate our community and especially our children and future leaders as to the old-fashioned sense of values, hard work, resourcefulness and self-sufficiency that characterized the ranchers in the late 1800's.

We as a community - and especially our children - need to be able to feel, touch and experience as best we can recreate it the environment which taught our forefathers to appreciate, respect, and honor those who produce the food and fiber on which we are all dependent and appropriately restore an appreciation for the resources that make it possible. We are otherwise at risk of future generations losing these basic values.

Your support through assisting with the funding of this two acre land acquisition is critical to preserving this site forever from development and allowing this most worthy ranch heritage story to be told next door to an already vital historical component of our community, the Kona Historical Society, which must and will endure for the benefit and enrichment of future generations.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely

  
James S. Greenwell  
President

Tomoe Nimori  
PO Box 169  
Holualoa, HI 96725

December 9, 2008

State of Hawaii  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
PO Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Dear Commissioners:

I seek your support to grant funds from the Legacy Land Conservation Program to the Kona Historical Society for three reasons.

I. Since its inception thirty one years ago this organization has unyieldingly focused on its mission to preserve, collect, and disseminate the history of Kona. Volunteers and staff have developed programs to present this preserved history to schools, the community and visitors. During this thirty year period, KHS underwent a self study of its collections and programs and conducted long-range planning for its future. Having established the Kona Coffee Living History Farm, KHS is now poised to tell another very important story of Kona, the ranching industry. Please rest assured that KHS will be accountable to you and to our community.

II. The Kona Heritage Ranch at Kalukalu when completed with buildings and rock walls that represent a 1890's homestead will truly be a place where the story of daily living on a typical Hawaiian ranch will be told.

III. As a third generation member of immigrants from Japan, the Kona Heritage Ranch represents more than a physical setting to me. The introduction of Hawaiian and European cultures to Asians created a bond of understanding among the early residents of Kona. Growing up in Kona, we did not understand what racial discrimination meant because the early ranchers and farmers not only accepted each other but embraced each others' cultures.

Funds from the Legacy Lands Conservation Program will serve the purpose of establishing the Kona Heritage Ranch and ensure that future generations will live in harmony with one another just as the early residents of Kona.

Sincerely,



Tomoe Nimori

Vice President, Pulama IA Kona Heritage Preservation Council

**HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

University of Hawai'i Center, West Hawai'i

December 10, 2008

State of Hawai'i  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

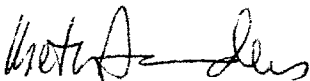
Aloha kakou. I am writing this letter in support of an application to the Legacy Lands Conservation Program by Kona Historical Society. The Society is requesting assistance with the purchase of 2 acres of ranch land that lies adjacent to their H. N. Greenwell Store historic site. Plans for the property include development of an 1890's homestead to include educational exhibits of authentic and reconstructed buildings typical of those found on Kona's ranches at the turn of the last century.

Hawai'i Community College and the University of Hawai'i Center-West Hawai'i instructors consider Kona Historical Society a valuable educational resource. The age old maxim *those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it* does little to dispel 21<sup>st</sup> century students' queries of why they need to study history. The Kona Historical Society's exhibits and living history programs, on the other hand, make history come alive. Students become interested and through study, learn what history aims to teach: critical thinking and analytical skills, abilities prized by all disciplines.

The ranch acreage has value as a resource to the island of Hawai'i. Kona Historical Society's acquisition will enable expanded programs and activities, preserving the multi-cultural heritage of West Hawai'i and educating students in yesteryear's ranching values of family, cooperative work, and respect for the 'aina. The parcel, due to its proximity to other Society holdings, also has important cultural and historical significance; its use should not be left to chance. With title held by Kona Historical Society, its value will be maintained and the land secured for future generations.

As a community-based, non-profit organization, whose mission is to collect, preserve, interpret and disseminate the history of the Kona districts, Kona Historical Society's request seems a perfect match to the Legacy Lands Conservation Program objectives. Funding the Society's grant request will promote preservation and reuse, essential tools for sustaining our environment; and perpetuate history, benefiting all who pass by the site on Mamalahoa Highway (Highway 11), about 14 miles south of the town of Kailua-Kona, between mile markers 111 and 112.

Mahalo nui loa.



Beth Sanders  
Interim Director, University of Hawai'i Center-West Hawai'i

# Lyman Museum

*... in association with the Smithsonian Institution*

276 Haili Street ~ Hilo, Hawai'i 96720



September 10, 2008

State of Hawai'i  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
PO Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809

To the Commissioners:

Being a long-time supporter of the Kona Historical Society, I recommend that Kona Historical Society be awarded the Legacy Lands Conservation Program for purchase of land on which they plan to develop the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead.

As a fellow historian, I believe Kona Historical Society (KHS) plays a vital role in the cultural preservation of and education about the heritage of Hawaii. The H.N. Greenwell Store and the Kona Coffee Living History Farm are destinations for the younger generation, local residents and the ever increasing number of visitors who expect and receive an enriched experience and who demand to be educated in the historic significance of the heritage of Hawaii.

On behalf of the Lyman Museum, I endorse funding the Kona Historical Society for the purchase of land for the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead. I have no doubt that this will be another successful endeavor for KHS and ultimately a major contribution for the future of Hawai'i and her children. I request your generous consideration and look forward to a positive response.

Mahalo for your consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Dolly Strazar".

M. Dolly Strazar  
President/Executive Director



Accredited by the  
American Association  
of Museums

Phone (808) 935-5021 ~ Fax (808) 969-7685 ~ Email: [info@lymanmuseum.org](mailto:info@lymanmuseum.org) ~ [www.lymanmuseum.org](http://www.lymanmuseum.org)

December 29, 2008

State of Hawaii  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O.Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Dear Commissioners:

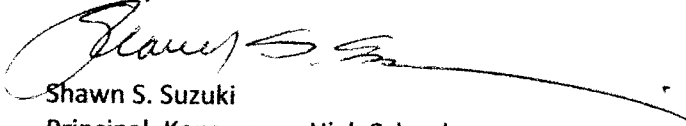
I am writing this letter of support and recommendation on behalf of the Kona Historical Society and their request for funds from the Legacy Lands Conservation Program to develop the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead.

As a resident and proud educator living and working in the South Kona community, I have experienced firsthand the valuable services the Kona Historical Society provides. Not only is the Society the keeper of Big Island and Kona history, but it's an incredible resource for students and schools. With the "new three R's of education- rigor, relevance, and relationships", there is nothing more relevant than making concrete social and educational connections to the place you live. And for many of our students and families those connections are to ranching.

Kona, as the birthplace of Hawaiian ranching, saw the development of many culturally important values and traditions through the cooperation and hard work of many people and cultures. The acquisition of the Ranch Homestead property that this award would allow will continue the mission of the Kona Historical Society in preserving and maintaining these types of culturally significant resources for all.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your consideration and support. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at work 323-4500 or cell 895-3493.

Sincerely:



Shawn S. Suzuki  
Principal, Konawaena High School



## BISHOP MUSEUM

June 16, 2008

State of Hawai'i  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
PO Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809

To the Commissioners:

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PRESIDENT & CEO

I am writing to recommend that Legacy Lands Conservation Program funds be awarded to the Kona Historical Society for purchase of land on which they plan to develop the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead.

Kona Historical Society (KHS) is our neighbor and colleague institution. They have a long history of developing top quality programs interpreting the ranching heritage of Kona. The H.N Greenwell Store and the Kona Coffee Living History Farm are two wonderful KHS programs that have brought the story of Kona's past alive for residents and visitors. Their projects are meticulously planned and researched and the personnel they employ to develop their programs and deliver them are extremely capable and skilled.

KHS projects benefit the community by keeping the unique history of the place alive and relevant. This improves the quality of life for residents and the quality of the visitor experience for cultural tourists. KHS programs attract more visitors and make them more likely to stay for a long time and return. Developing the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead will increase their ability to benefit the community.

I have no doubt that this will be another successful undertaking by KHS. I hope that you will help our community by supporting Kona Historical Society's purchase of land for the Kalukalu Ranch Homestead.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Van Dyke  
Manager

Allen Wall  
PO Box 187  
Kealahou Hawaii 96750

August 25, 2008

Commissioners  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Legacy Land Conservation Program  
1151 Punchbowl Street Room 325  
Honolulu Hawaii 96813

Aloha Commissioners,

I am Allen Wall, Kamaaina of Kona Nei. My involvement with the cattle industry here has been lifelong. I am a strong supporter of the Kona Historical Society and its Heritage Ranch Project. I have been active in helping to plan that development and much of my family history is reflected in the elements of that endeavor.

I consider myself fortunate to have witnessed a slice of Kona's history that is now passed. The interaction between the different ethnic groups (closer integration on the ranches that in the plantation culture), the transition from work animals to mechanization and the slower pace of life here before World War II.

I feel a great need to pass a sense of what made Kōna's agriculture on to our residents and descendants as well as visitors. Stories can become dated without a physical manifestations. It is imperative that Kona Historical Society secure adequate space to present that history. There is a huge public desire to hear it and feel it.

I ask for your kokua in including Kona Historical Society in this year's award under The Legacy Lands Conservation Program to purchase the two (2) plus acres required to accommodate our project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen Wall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'A'.

Allen Wall